

Spain-Portugal Accelerathon: innovation and cooperation against Covid-19 and climate change

Open innovation programme to promote your idea in the
Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion.

Terms and
conditions of the
call for proposals
2021

CHALLENGE
fight against Covid-19 and climate change

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GENERAL DATA

The Spain-Portugal Accelerathon: innovation and cooperation against Covid-19 and climate change will be held in an online format and the initiatives submitted must be applicable to the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion (Euroregion AAA).

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JUSTIFICATION AND OWNERSHIP

Climate change and Covid-19 are two major challenges for the AAA Euroregion. Fires are a clear example of an environmental and social problem, with Spain and Portugal being two of the countries most affected by this phenomenon in Europe. This is one of the main reasons why the CILIFO Project wanted to collaborate. There are also other problems such as the loss or degradation of biodiversity, in addition to all the damage caused by the pandemic. For all these reasons, this Accelerathon has been promoted in order to commit to cooperation and innovation as a solution to the challenges.

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OUTLINE OF THE ACCELERATHON

The main objective of this Accelerathon is to promote innovative initiatives based on cross-border **collaboration between Spain and Portugal, specifically in the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion (EuroregionAAA)**, in order to solve challenges related to Covid-19 and climate change. To this end, a launching webinar will be held to address these challenges and present the methodology of the competition.

www.accelerathon.eu | www.finnova.eu

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he target audience of the Accelerathon are entrepreneurs, research organisations, public and private entities, SMEs and start-ups, universities, etc. Groups already established with an initiative or individuals can register. The event organisers reserve the right to add individuals to established groups to enrich the exchange of ideas and the groups that register agree to allow those individuals to participate during the Accelerathon. Registration link [here](#).

Finnova will monitor the participants telematically to guide them in the submission of their proposals (Summary Sheet). These will be evaluated by a jury of experts in the field. The 5 Summary Sheets with the highest scores will be disseminated through Finnova and Firefighting Open Innovation Lab - CILIFO communication channels. In addition, they will be placed on their websites. The finalists will participate in the final webinar in which they will make a 5-minute pitch. The jury will choose the best proposal, which will receive advice and will be mentored for a possible submission of their project to a European call for proposals. The four remaining initiatives will benefit from the financial aid information service provided by Finnova.

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WORKING PLAN

4.1

OBJECTIVE

Identify innovative and collaborative proposals from public and private entities applicable to the EuroregionAAA that can be implemented both during and after the pandemic to solve environmental and social challenges caused by Covid-19 and climate change.

4.2

METHODOLOGY

The Accelerathon methodology will be used, an open innovation technique promoted by Finnova that consists of launching a challenge to capture new ideas through innovative proposals. To this end, participants will receive the support of Finnova experts in the proposed topic applied to the AAA Euroregion. Thus, Finnova's public-private network and the support of Portuguese entities will be available: the University of Évora; IrRADIARE; and the Intermunicipal Community of AMAL. In addition, there is the collaboration of the CILIFO Project, its beneficiaries and its Firefighting Open Innovation Lab - CILIFO. This methodology has been applied in the past with very positive results (www.accelerathon.eu).



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EXPECTED RESULTS

A minimum of 10 proposals are expected to be received, with no maximum number.

From all the proposals received, three finalists will be chosen. The first finalist proposal will be mentored and the second and third place proposals will receive partial mentoring, and may benefit from a financial aid information service provided by Finnova. The five best proposals will be disseminated - while respecting at all times the protection of business secrecy - on Finnova's website and social networks, and the Firefighting Open Innovation Lab-CILIFO to help disseminate them and increase the chances that entities interested in investing in them will get to know them.

ACTORS INVOLVED

The main actor is the Finnova Foundation; the secondary actors will be the Portuguese entities: the University of Évora; IrRADIARE; and the Intermunicipal Community of Amal for the realisation and implementation of the tasks included in the celebration of the "Spain-Portugal Accelerathon: innovation and cooperation against Covid-19 and climate change". This event is financed by the CONSEJERÍA DE LA PRESIDENCIA, ADMINISTRACIÓN PÚBLICA E INTERIOR of the JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA.

Initiative subsidised by the Ministry of the Presidency, Public Administration and Interior of the Regional Government of Andalusia, External Action Service, in the framework of the promotion of cross-border cooperation in the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion. [Order of 13 July 2020]

BENEFICIARIES

This Accelerathon focuses on global problems - Covid-19 and climate change - so the general beneficiary is the general public. Both the private and public sectors will also be present, with the participation of start-ups, universities, entrepreneurs, companies and public administrations. The focus is on the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion, as the call promotes actions in this area.



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HOW TO DRAW UP PROPOSALS (SUMMARY SHEETS)

The template for submitting the Summary Sheet will be provided to interested parties after registration at the following [link](#); proposals may not exceed five pages in length. The juries will assess the Summary Sheets on the basis of the following evaluation criteria.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	SECTION OF THE CONCEPT NOTE
1. Viability - (20 points)	Title of the proposal/project idea 1.1 Who is involved in the proposal? 1.2 Description of the proposal 1.3 Expected results: future project steps
2. Problem solving - (15 points)	2. Problem to be solved (Covid-19 and/or climate change in the Alentejo-Algarve-Andalusia Euroregion)
3. Innovation - (40 points)	3.1. Methodology or innovative measures
	3.2. Degree of development
4. Cross-border value - (15 points)	4. Cross-border value of the solution (Spain-Portugal)
5. Investment made so far and viability of the business model - (10 points)	5. Investment made so far and business information

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE AND/OR TRACK RECORD OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

The Finnova Foundation has extensive experience in holding events. These include the Start-Up Europe Awards (www.startupeuropeawards.eu) which, in collaboration with the European Commission's DG Connect, reward start-ups that provide innovative and disruptive solutions in different social areas. In addition, it has organised several Accelerathons, mainly focused on environmental issues, and webinars of both an informative and educational nature, which can be consulted at www.accelerathon.eu. Among the latter, it is worth highlighting its extensive training experience in the field of European funding.



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RELEVANT DATES

09/03/2021

Accelerathon Spain - Portugal launch webinar.

10/03/2021

Start of the deadline for registration and submission of proposals.

13/04/2021

Mentoring, training and networking day.

19/04/2021

Deadline for registration and submission of proposals.

20/04/2021

03/05/2021

Evaluation period of the initiatives and selection of the 3 winners.

06/05/2021

Final Webinar - Accelerathon Award.

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